



STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) *Anniversary Proclamation*

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on July 26th, 1990; in the presence of over 3,000 disability rights advocates, including many from California; and

WHEREAS; in signing the landmark legislation, President Bush proclaimed the ADA to be “the world’s first comprehensive declaration of the equality of people with disabilities,” and acknowledging their rights to be endowed with the same inalienable rights established in the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, for the last fourteen years, the ADA has sought to insure that people with disabilities are respected as equal citizens, including equal opportunities to access inclusive education, achieve gainful employment; and fully participate in the recreational, leisure, and social activities in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the ADA works to ensure that people with disabilities are free from discrimination; treated with respect and dignity, move freely about the community, and live in the least restrictive environment; and

WHEREAS, our Nation is stronger today because of the ADA;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities does hereby celebrate the 14th “Birthday” of the ADA, and acknowledges Congress and the President for their ongoing commitment to protect the rights of all people with disabilities; and for their understanding that disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right to live independently, to exert control and choice, and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities.

ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF JULY, 2004

PETER MENDOZA, Chair
California State Council on Developmental Disabilities